

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

Water Resources Program

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March 26, 2018

FILE # WQC2018-002

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX

NPDES Permit Section (WTR-2-3)

Attn: Linh Tran

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Clean Water Act Section §401 Water Quality Certification for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. AZ0024511 White Mountain Apache Tribe Canyon Day Sand and Gravel Wash Process Plant.

The White Mountain Apache Tribe (WMAT) Water Resources Program has received your request for Clean Water Act (CWA) §401 water quality certification for White Mountain Apache Tribe Public Works Department to operate Canyon Day Sand and Gravel Wash Process Plant – NPDES Permit AZ0024511. The project is located on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation in Gila County, Arizona.

Description of Facility use

WMAT Public Works Department currently operates the Canyon Day sand and gravel process plant. The plant provides processed rock material for rock-use projects. Rock materials are brought-in off the plant site which are crushed, screened, and washed. The process plant sits near the North Fork of White River perennial stream south of the Canyon Day community. Water from the stream is pumped to the plant to wash sand from rock material. Once sand and rock are separated the rock materials are stockpiled. Sand including wastewater is re-directed to flow into a sediment trap pond then into a settling wastewater pond. Once water settles in the settling pond it'll get discharged back into the North Fork of the White River at Outfall No. 001.

Project Impact

The sand and gravel process plant would result in the impact of North Fork of the White River stream. However, the wash plant is operated non-continuously and may be the case duration of the permit period which should only impact the stream at minimum to none.

Certification

I hereby grant water quality certification provided the following conditions are adhered to:

1. The WMAT Public Works Department (Operator) will adhere to all conditions set forth in the NPDES Permit No. AZ0024511.
2. The Operator is responsible for obtaining all other permits, licenses, and certifications that may be required by federal, state, or tribal authorities.
3. The sand and gravel wash plant shall be constructed in conformity with the project description written in the site and operation plan. Any changes must be submitted to WMAT Water Quality Officer for review and approval before the changes are implemented.
4. The Operator shall have a spill containment plan and a spill response kit onsite to ensure that pollutants are prevented from entering North Fork of the White River.
5. The Operator will adhere to the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that was developed for the sand and gravel wash plant. If any changes of the site plan or layout of the site should occur an updated SWPPP shall be developed and made current.
6. If any fuel spill or release of chemical should occur it shall be immediately contained and reported to the Tribal Environmental Protection Office at (928)-338-4325 and Water Quality Officer (928)-338-4267.
7. If at any time, an unauthorized discharge occurs, or any water quality concerns arise, the project shall cease immediately until adequate BMPs are implemented. The Tribe's Water Quality Officer shall be notified immediately.
8. This certification is void if the operation is not consistent with the operation and site plan.

This certification is valid through December 31, 2023 unless this certification details are modified, reissued, or revoked before this date.

Note that inspections during operation may occur by WMAT Water Resources staff and/or members of the Tribal Plan and Project Review (TPPR) Panel to ascertain compliance with this certification and those instances of non-compliance with this water quality certification could result in an enforcement action under provisions of tribal law or the Federal Clean Water Act.

If you should have any questions regarding this certification, please feel free to contact me directly at 928-338-4267 or danielpusher@wmat.us.

Sincerely,



Daniel Pusher, Water Quality Officer
WMAT Water Resources Program

Cc:

David Smith, U.S. EPA Region IX NPDES Permit Section

Alfred Brooks, WMAT Public Works Department

Brenda Begay, WMAT Environmental Protection Office

Cheryl Pailzote, WMAT Water Resources Program